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Dulles Predicts Castro Will Topple Eventually

Former CIA Director Says Russians Learned Nothing From TV Briefings in Cuba Crisis

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Allen W. Dulles, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, predicted Sunday that the Castro regime in Cuba eventually will be overthrown.

"It's only a question of how it will happen and how soon," said Dulles. "I'm an optimist."

In an article published in February, Dulles had said that the people under Communist rule could carry out a successful revolution. Such attempts have been proved "ineffective and disastrous," he said.

Dulles did not say why he thought Premier Fidel Castro would be ousted. He was interviewed on a television program about his article, "The Craft of Intelligence," appearing in the April issue of Harper's magazine.

'They Already Knew'

Dulles, who retired in 1962 as chief of the CIA, also said he did not believe the United States had "gone too far" in Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara's televised briefing in February on intelligence estimates of Soviet strength in Cuba.

"It didn't worry me very particularly," Dulles said. "We were telling the Russians what they already knew" about U.S. intelligence-gathering methods.

President Kennedy had expressed concern at a news conference, after McNamara's briefing, that the administration had disclosed too much about its intelligence work.

Dulles said he believed the U.S. intelligence community might have misjudged Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev's intentions in Cuba before the discovery of Soviet offensive

weapons there.

In the Harper's article, Dulles had said that in October, 1962, "certainly here he (Khrushchev) misestimated — just as some on our side had misestimated that Khrushchev would not attempt to place offensive weapons in Cuba, right under our nose."

Dulles said the "most difficult thing to get around" in intelligence work is the prejudices of individuals. A good example was Pearl Harbor, he said. U.S. officials insisted the Japanese would be foolish to attack, he said, although they were faced with plenty of intelligence data which suggested that an attack was coming.